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## **CHAPTER 7**

### **GLOSSARY AND LIST OF ACRONYMS**

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#### GLOSSARY

**Ambient air**—Any unconfined portion of the atmosphere; the outside air.

**Aluminum conductor steel reinforced**—This type of conductor has aluminum strands wrapped around a stranded steel core. The steel reinforces the conductor because it is much stronger.

**Ambient air quality standard**—A federal and state measure of the level of air contamination that is not to be exceeded in order to protect human health.

**Assessor parcel number**—Given to a parcel, or a specified area, of land by the county tax assessor.

**Capacity**—The power ability of electrical equipment, measured in watts.

**Electric resource plan**—A plan required by the Public Utility Commission of Nevada every three years to determine how future energy requirements will be served.

**Generation**—The production of electricity from other forms of energy, such as combustion, falling water, or thermal transfer.

**Generation capacity**—Maximum electric production limit for which a generator is rated. The maximum limit fluctuates with changes in temperature or other environmental circumstances, depending on the type of machine.

**Hydro-axe**—A large lawnmower-like machine that cuts brush and vegetation down to about six inches above the ground, leaving the root systems intact for regrowth. This machine would be used where needed to provide construction equipment and vehicle access to the tower sites.

**kcmil (thousand circular mils)**—a mil is the cable cross section area calculated by multiplying the individual average wire diameter (in inches) by 1,000, squaring the result and multiplying it by the number of wires.

**Kilovolt**—A measure of electric voltage, one thousand volts. Household current is supplied at 120 volts.

**Load centers**—Major areas of electricity consumption such as large cities or large industrial facilities.

**Megawatt**—A measure of alternating current electric power that performs work. One thousand kilowatts, or one million watts. A standard light bulb is 60 watts.

**Native generation**—Electricity generation within a utility service area.

**Native load**—Traditional customers served within a utility service area.

**Nitrogen oxides**—A gaseous mixture of nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and symbolically represented as NO<sub>x</sub>.

**Nitric oxide**—A molecule of one nitrogen and one oxygen atom. Results usually from combustion of organic substances containing nitrogen and from recombination of nitrogen decomposed in air during high temperature combustion; poisonous and highly reactive gases produced when fuel is burned at high temperatures, causing nitrogen in the air to combine with oxygen.

**Nitrogen dioxide**—A molecule of one nitrogen and two oxygen atoms. Results usually from further

oxidation of nitric oxide in the atmosphere. Ozone accelerates to conversion.

**Nonutility Owned Generation**—Generation that is possessed by an entity not in the business for the sale of electricity to retail customers.

**Operating (or spinning) reserves**—As required by WECC Operating Criteria, WECC member utilities must have standby generation, actually online but not delivering power, to ensure an adequate level of service.

**Ozone**—A colorless gas formed by a complex series of chemical and photochemical reaction of reactive organic gases, principally hydrocarbons, with oxides of nitrogen, which is harmful to the public health, the biota, and some materials; a molecule of three oxygen atoms. A principle component of oxidant in photochemically polluted atmospheres.

**Particulate matter (particles)**—Very fine solid matter or droplets, typically averaging one micron or smaller in diameter. Also called aerosol.

**Parts per billion**—A measure of the amount of one substance in a second substance, which is the carrier.

**Parts per million**—A measure of the amount of one substance found in a carrier.

**Photochemical pollutant**—Reactive organic compounds and nitrogen oxides, photochemical pollutants that absorb energy from the sun and react chemically to form ozone.

**Planning reserves**—As required by WECC operating criteria, WECC member utilities must have standby generation capacity, in addition to existing demand requirements, to ensure an adequate level of service.

**PM<sub>10</sub>**—Particulate matter less than 10 microns in size, which is small enough to be inhaled deeply into the lungs and to cause disease.

**Power**—The rate at which work is done. (Electrical power can be calculated through voltage and current and expressed in watts.)

**Rating**—Maximum operation limit of transmission or generation facilities, as established by WECC and/or NPP operating and reliability criteria guidelines. Utility facilities and interconnections can be rated either for individual or simultaneous operation, where simultaneous operations take into consideration collective WECC or NPP utilities.

**Right-of-way**—An easement, lease, permit, or license across an area or strip of land to allow access or to allow a utility to pass through public or private lands.

**Riparian**—Area along the banks of a river or lake supporting specialized plant and animal species.

**Self-owned or utility-owned generation**—Electric generation that is possessed by a utility.

**Sensitive receptor**—Land uses or people adjacent to or within close proximity of a project site that could be affected by construction, operation, and maintenance activities.

**Shoo-fly**—A construction term for installing a temporary power line to divert electrical flow while an existing line is taken out of service.

**Sulfur oxides**—The group of compounds formed during combustion or thereafter in the atmosphere of sulfur compounds in the fuel, each having various levels of oxidation, ranging from two oxygen atoms for each sulfur to four oxygen atoms.

**Total suspended particulates**—Solid or liquid particles small enough to remain suspended in air. PM<sub>10</sub> is the portion of total suspended particulates that can be inhaled.

**Utility corridor**—A linear corridor usually designated for facilities, such as powerlines, pipelines, fiber-optic cables, and roads.

**Wetland**—Lands traditionally between obviously upland and aquatic environments. Wetlands are generally highly productive environments with abundant fish, wildlife, esthetic, and natural resource

values. For this reason, coupled with the alarming rate of their destruction, they are considered valuable resources, and several regulations and laws have been implemented to protect them.

**LIST OF ACRONYMS**

Acronym	Full Phrase
ACEC	area of critical environmental concern
ACOE	US Army Corps of Engineers
AST	aboveground storage tank
AUM	animal unit month
BEA	Bureau of Economic Analysis
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BLS	Bureau of Labor Statistics
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAB	Citizens Advisory Board
CCFO	Carson City Field Office
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CO	carbon monoxide
COM	construction, operation, and monitoring
CRMP	consolidated resource management plan
CWA	Clean Water Act
DOE	Department of Energy
EA	environmental assessment
EIS	environmental impact statement
EMF	electromagnetic field
EO	executive order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
ESA	Endangered Species Act
F	Fahrenheit
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
FONSI	finding of no significant impact
ha	hectare
HMA	herd management area
KOP	key observation point
Kv	kilovolt
m	meter
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
mG	milligauss
MMPA	Mining and Mineral Policy Act

Acronym	Full Phrase
MOU	memorandum of understanding
mW	megawatts
NA	not applicable
NCO Railroad	Nevada-California-Oregon Railroad
NDEP	Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
NDOW	Nevada Division of Wildlife
NDWP	Nevada Division of Water Planning
NDWR	Nevada Division of Water Resources
NEP	National Energy Policy
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NNHP	Nevada Natural Heritage Program
NNNPS	Northern Nevada Native Plant Society
NO <sub>2</sub>	nitrogen dioxide
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
O <sub>3</sub>	ozone
OHV	off-highway vehicle
PCBs	poly-chlorinated biphenyl
PL	public law
PM <sub>10</sub>	inhalable particulate matter
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	fine particulate matter
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RMP	resource management plan
ROI	region of influence
ROW	right-of-way
RUCR	Regional Utility Corridor Report
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SHPO	state historic preservation officer
SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
SO <sub>4</sub>	sulfate particles
SOI	sphere of influence
SPPCo	Sierra Pacific Power Company
SR	state route
SUP	Special Use Permit
TCID	Tahoe-Carson Irrigation District
TCP	traditional cultural property
TMRP	Truckee Meadows Regional Plan

Acronym	Full Phrase
TMRPA	Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
US	United States
USC	United States Code
USFS	US Forest Service
USFWS	US Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VRM	visual resource management
WMA	wildlife management area
WSA	wilderness study area